

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please amend the claims as shown in the following listing of claims, which will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1.-18. (Canceled)

19. (New) An optical lens comprising a temporary outer protective coating at least partially covering a surface of the lens, said outer protective coating comprising at least one outer layer that is mechanically alterable through friction and/or contact, with the proviso that said outer layer is not a metal oxide and/or metal hydroxide outer layer directly in contact with an underlying layer containing magnesium fluoride, wherein the temporary outer protective coating is coated with a peelable film electrostatically adhering to said outer layer.

20. (New) The lens of claim 19, wherein the outer layer comprises at least one metal fluoride, metal oxide, metal hydroxide, marking ink for optical lenses, or resin which may form the binding agent of such marking ink.

21. (New) The lens of claim 20, wherein the outer layer comprises at least one of  $MgF_2$ ,  $LaF_3$ ,  $AlF_3$ ,  $CeF_3$ ,  $MgO$ ,  $CaO$ ,  $TiO_2$ ,  $Al_2O_3$ ,  $ZrO_2$ ,  $Pr_2O_3$ ,  $Mg(OH)_2$ ,  $Ca(OH)_2$ , or  $Al(OH)_3$ .

22. (New) The lens of claim 21, wherein the metal fluoride is  $MgF_2$ .

23. (New) The lens of claim 21, wherein the metal oxide is  $MgO$ .

24. (New) The lens of claim 21, wherein the metal hydroxide is  $Mg(OH)_2$ .

25. (New) The lens of claim 20, wherein the outer layer is made of a metal fluoride.

26. (New) The lens of claim 25, wherein the metal fluoride is  $MgF_2$ .

27. (New) The lens of claim 19, wherein the temporary outer protective coating is mineral and has a thickness equal to or lower than 50 nm.

28. (New) The lens of claim 19, wherein the outer layer of the temporary outer protective coating has a surface energy of at least 15 mJ/m<sup>2</sup>.

29. (New) The lens of claim 19, wherein the temporary outer protective coating covers at least 15% of the surface of the lens.

30. (New) The lens of claim 29, wherein the temporary outer protective coating covers the whole surface of the lens.

31. (New) The lens of claim 19, wherein the temporary outer protective coating is a multilayered coating.

32. (New) The lens of claim 19, wherein the temporary outer protective coating has been deposited via a vapor phase deposition.

33. (New) The lens of claim 19, wherein the electrostatic peelable film is a flexible film made of a plastic material containing at least 20% by weight of at least one plasticizer.

34. (New) The lens of claim 33, wherein the plastic material film contains at least 30% by weight of at least one plasticizer.

35. (New) The lens of claim 34, wherein the plastic material film contains 30 to 60% by weight of at least one plasticizer.

36. (New) The lens of claim 33, wherein the plastic material flexible film is a polyvinyl chloride (PVC) film.

37. (New) The lens of claim 19, wherein the electrostatic film has a thickness ranging from 100 to 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .

38. (New) The lens of claim 19, wherein the temporary outer protective coating is on a lens hydrophobic and/or oleophobic surface coating.

39. (New) The lens of claim 40, wherein the hydrophobic and/or oleophobic surface coating has a surface energy equal to or lower than 14  $\text{mJ/m}^2$ .

40. (New) The lens of claim 39, wherein the hydrophobic and/or oleophobic surface coating has a surface energy equal to or lower than 12  $\text{mJ/m}^2$ .

41. (New) The lens of claim 40, wherein the hydrophobic and/or oleophobic surface coating has a thickness lower than 10 nm.

42. (New) The lens of claim 41, wherein the hydrophobic and/or oleophobic surface coating has a thickness lower than 5 nm.

43. (New) The lens of claim 38, wherein the hydrophobic and/or oleophobic surface coating is on a lens anti-reflection coating.

44. (New) A method for edging an optical lens, comprising:

providing an optical lens according to claim 19;  
removing the electrostatic peelable film;  
depositing the optical lens in an edging device comprising a holding pad, such that the holding pad would adhere to the mechanically alterable outer layer;  
edging the optical lens;  
removing the temporary protective coating; and  
recovering an edged optical lens.